

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

Editorial and Executive Office: 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois

An Independent Christian Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness and Formalism.

Vol. XVI, No. 45

FRIDAY, November 5, 1954

United States 1 year \$2.50; 3 years \$5.00
Canada and foreign 1 year \$3.00; 3 years \$6.50

A Loving God Answers Prayer

By the late Dr. Charles A. Blanchard,
Second President, Wheaton College

"...having loved his own...he loved them unto the end."—John 13:1.

God loves men, and because He loves men, He enjoys listening to what they say and doing for them what they request.

Children Deaf and Dumb

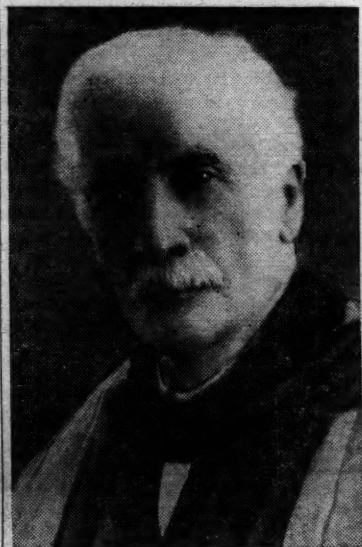
I do not know of a much greater affliction that could come upon a normal father and mother than to have a child born deaf and dumb. I had friends once who had this affliction come into their home. It was pathetic to see how they fought against the belief that it was true. They did not wish to admit it even when one could see they felt certain that it must be true. Children thus afflicted may be very gentle and loving. Unquestionably, they would be very dear to fathers and mothers, but the awful silence in the home where there is no voice of a child would be a sort of terror, and the impossibility of taking in the voice of father and mother would be a like sadness. If this would be true even of human fathers and mothers and children, how greatly it must be true of our heavenly Father.

I think He often waits to hear the cry of His children and that He sometimes allows them to come into circumstances of suffering, perplexity, and need in order that He may hear their voices. It is a pity that it should be needful for Him thus to prompt us to pray—

that it is needful, all who will reflect, will understand.

A Brokenhearted Lover

It is one of the tragedies of human life that sometimes God seems
(Continued on page 6)



Dr. Charles Blanchard

One of the Prize Winners in \$1,600. "Sermons on Vital Public Issues" Contest

The Battle of the BOTTLE

by Evangelist Jack Shuler, D.D.

111 Woodland Lane, Arcadia, California

"Ye are the salt of the earth..."—Matt. 5:13.

Jesus said it. He said it to those whose desire was for spiritual benefit. He said it to the merciful, the pure in heart, the peace-makers. He said it to those who endured persecution for righteousness' sake; who were reviled and falsely accused and whose reward was in Heaven. He said it to disciples; to those who would comprise the future Church and into whose hands He would commit the task of sowing the seeds of Christianity around the world. "Ye are the salt of the earth."

Those who follow Jesus are like salt which is, in the chemical sense, a prime factor of life. If re-

moved from the oceans, stench and putrefaction would result. If withdrawn from the soil, harvest would be impossible. If taken from the elemental kingdom, mankind would perish from the earth. All this was in mind when Christ spoke to His disciples on the mountain informing them that what salt was to the material realm they were to be to the kingdom of God.

In using the metaphor Christ gave Christians their marching orders. Salt protects, and the body of believers is likewise to serve as guardian of things holy. Salt purifies, and Christians are expected to purge their surroundings of things evil. Salt perfects, and as surely as it serves to make food-stuff palatable, God's children are to endeavor to make human society more decent. Lastly, salt preserves. In using the appellation with reference to Christendom, Jesus indicated that the very survival of humanity until His return would depend upon how suc-

cessfully the Church carried out its divine mission.

Salt Is a Protecting Agent

Although national life is in—
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Dr. Jack Shuler

Factual
LIFE AFTER
DEATH
ANSWERS

WILL WE KNOW OUR LOVED ONES IN HEAVEN?

LOVED ONES IN HEAVEN?

Evangelist MERV ROSELL

(Message delivered by Evangelist Merv Rosell—transcribed exactly as it was preached to the thousands who filled the Civic Auditorium in Portland, Oregon. Many stood in the street outside to hear the message over the loud speaker system provided by Portland's Mayor.)



Evangelist Merv Rosell

The belief in Heaven is universal. When God made the human ear, He did not forget to give us music to satisfy that human ear. When God made the human eye, He did not fail to give us light, and color, and beauty to satisfy that human eye. When God made the human mind, He did not fail to provide the wisdom of the ages to engage that human mind. When God made the human heart, He cast it in amazing eternal mold, too great to be satisfied with three-score years on earth. He will not fail to provide reality in Heaven in which to engage that human heart for the ages to come.

God's promise shall not fail. "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:1-3).

In every nation I have visited,

around this troubled world, I found the human heart longing for a life beyond death. The Greeks and the Romans write of their "Elysian Fields." The Brahmins write of their "Tyrana" and "Nirvana." The American Indian familiarly speaks of his "Happy Hunting Ground." The Norsemen promise "Valhalla." In North Africa the Moslems in the Mohammedan world promise a heaven in which each man will have eighty thousand servants and seventy-three thousand wives. (I do not know how that could be Heaven. I have met some men with one wife who had anything but a heavenly existence.) Every nation upon the face of the earth—every race, kindred, tongue and tribe, speaks of a land beyond death; yet so few of the world's people have any factual evidence to substantiate such a claim.

The facts concerning life beyond death fall into three easily remembered outline points. I shall address myself first of all to the "REVELATION OF HEAVEN." What is it? How will we get there? Is it factual? Is it real?

(Continued on page 9)

The Way to Never-Failing Strength

By Evangelist John R. Rice

"Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."—Isa. 40:28-31.

There is a way for Christians who are weak to be strong. There is a way for the tired, the discouraged, the defeated Christians to have victory every day. There are infinite resources available for every child of God! God's children may, if they be only willing to wait upon the Lord, "mount up with wings as eagles," or "run, and not be weary," or "walk, and not faint"! Are you entering into all your inheritance, and taking the courage and strength and power that a Christian may have by waiting on God?

An Infinitely Powerful God Is Ours; Never Discouraged, Never Weary, Never Distraught!

Did you never hear, have you never known that God is "the

everlasting God"? Did you never hear that He created "the ends of the earth," that literally He is the author of all the infinite details of creation? Did you know that He made the starry heavens and all their hosts? Did you know that He colored every flower, formed every organ of every insect? Did you know that all the countless processes of nature He planned and now supervises? Did you ever hear that He is "LORD," that God is the Master, the "Boss," of everything in the universe? Well, if so, dear Christian, you should know there is power for every child of God, victory every day, joy and peace all the time! Here the prophet Isaiah tells us that we have a God of infinite re-

(Continued on page 8)

For Young People

MIRACLES of SCIENCE

by the late
Arthur J. Brown M.D.



The Longest Nose in the World

I think I shall ask you to look with me today at some remarkable features of animal construction in relation to apparent defects in one part or organ, this defect compensated by the peculiar structure of another part or organ. It is not possible to imagine any stronger evidence of design than this survey will give us.

We have been thinking of the Elephant, the Bat, and other animals—each with strange equipment and powers, and we shall see many more. Let us again spend a moment or two with the Elephant.

The short unbending neck is compensated by the length and flexibility of the trunk or proboscis. He could not have reached the ground without it; or, if it be supposed that he might have fed on the fruit, leaves, or branches of trees, how was he to drink? And we know that water in large quantities is absolutely indispensable to this Mammoth.

If we ask, "Why is the Elephant's neck so short?" the answer is that the weight of a head so heavy could not have been supported at the end of a long lever. Consequently, a supplement is added which exactly makes up for the deficiency under which he would have labored.

If it be suggested that this proboscis may have been produced through a long series of generations by the constant attempts of the Elephant to thrust out his nose, we ask the natural question, How was the animal to exist in the meantime, during the process, UNTIL this prolongation of the snout be completed? What was to become of the individual while the anatomical changes were being evolved? Undoubtedly, there would have been speedy death to every Elephant.

I am trying to point out the relation which this organ bears to the peculiar figure of the animal, and to its mode of obtaining food to supply its bulky frame; which is not only by browsing on grass, but also on the foliage of trees. And here all things correspond.

The need for the Elephant's proboscis arises from the shortness of his neck; the shortness of the neck is rendered necessary by the weight of the head. This long nasal projection is one of the most curious of all examples of animal mechanism. As we have seen, it is tubular, endowed with enormous muscular power, and with the most

delicate sensitiveness at its extremity. With it, its possessor can gather food, rend large branches off trees, or with the delicate finger-like end, pick up a straw or a penny. It is, the hand by which food and drink are conveyed to the mouth, and the pump with which it can syringe its huge body. It is also a weapon of defense with which it can crush in its powerful grasp whatever it seizes; or hurl an enemy to the ground, to be gored with its long tusks, or trampled to death beneath its ponderous feet.

These properties—all found in this one organ—taken together, exhibit not only design of the most marked character, but consummate art, and elaborate preparation in accomplishing that design.

We shall examine the Bat. The hook in the wing of this mammal is a mechanical, and also a compensating contrivance. At the angle of its wing, attached to its short thumb, there is a bent nail or claw, exactly in the form of a hook, by which the Bat attaches itself to the sides of rocks, caves, and buildings, laying hold of crevices, chinks, and slight projections. It hooks itself by this claw; remains suspended by it; and takes its flight from this position. It is easily seen that this strange device compensates for the inability of the legs to assist in standing or walking. These lacks or failures—if we care to call them such—are made up to it by the wing contrivance in the form of the hook. In placing a claw on that part, the Creator has deviated from that which is observed in winged animals, but has thus supplied it with the means of roosting in safety.

Anticipating a little the study of birds, let us think for a moment of a Crane, a bird created to live and seek its food among the waters. Cranes have no webbed feet and so are incapable of swimming. To make up for this lack, they are furnished with long legs for wading, or long bills for groping, or, usually, with both. This, again, is compensation.

The tongues of birds are not constructed as organs of taste, which sense, as we shall see, is imperfectly developed in this class. Birds are chiefly employed in obtaining and preparing their food for swallowing. For this purpose, the tongue is supported by two small bones extending upward

from the hyoid, a U-shaped bone at the base of the tongue. The tongue also is provided with a thick horny covering.

In the parrot, the tongue can be opposed to the hooked upper jaw, as our thumb is to the fingers. In birds which feed on honey, the tip of the tongue is given a feathery tuft, like a camel's-hair brush, by which it gathers its food. The tongue of the woodpecker is prolonged into a sharp lance, by which it reaches and pierces its prey—an arrangement aided by the very sticky saliva poured out beneath the point of the tongue. The parrot's beak is not adapted for picking up grain, but is strong enough to crush hard substances, and the hook in it helps admirably in climbing.

The spider's web is a compensating contrivance. The spider lives on flies, but has no wings to pursue them. This seems to present the spider with an insurmountable difficulty, but the resourcefulness of the Creator of the spider—without any thinking or effort of the animal—overcomes this handicap in a most delightful and successful fashion. We shall examine it later.

In many species of insects, the eye is fixed, and so without the power of turning in the direction of the object to be looked at. However, this great defect is perfectly compensated by a curious mechanism. The eye becomes a magnifying glass with a lens looking in every direction, enabling the retina to catch rays from every object.

In the eyes of flies, butterflies, and other insects, the field of vision is enlarged by the presence of thousands of six-sided facets, each a perfect eye, with cornea, lens, iris, and pupil. This is surely not the result of any possible chance operation.

In the chameleon, instead of there being two eyelids, the eye is covered with one eyelid with a hole in it. This, as we shall see, is wonderfully compensatory. The neck of this animal is inflexible, and to make up for this, the eye is so prominent that half of the eyeball stands out of the head. By means of this extraordinary projection, the pupil of the eye can be carried by the muscles in every direction, and each eye, separately, is capable of being pointed toward any object. On one side, the chameleon looks in one direction, and on the opposite side in an entirely different direction. The unusual exposure of the globe of the eye is dangerous, so an additional protection is required to prevent injury, and provision must be made for plenty of moisture. So what do we find? The pronounced convexity of this projecting organ makes it impossible to use an eyelid formed according to the general plan; so the aperture in the single lid meets the difficulty. The principal part of the eye may be kept covered, and constant moisture is possible. Where, at first glance, we notice apparent defects, we always come upon some notable contrivance to supply what is lacking.

A Snail, without wings, feet, or thread, climbs up the stalks of plants by the aid of a sticky secretion manufactured in its skin. It easily adheres to the stems, leaves, and fruits of plants by means of this adhesive plaster!

A Fly can walk on the ceiling because it has suckers on its feet.

The Mussel, a small bi-valve mollusk, seems to be very helpless, and at the mercy of every wave

that touches it; but it has been equipped with the ability to spin strong tendinous threads by which it moors its shell to rocks and timbers.

A Lobster, when we examine it, seems to be hopelessly handicapped for increasing its size. The Lobster's shell is a protecting covering and is also an attachment for muscles. It is too hard to expand with increasing growth of the Lobster, so the shell must be discarded or the animal will be squeezed to death. How can it extricate itself from its confinement? How can it uncase its buckler, or draw its legs out of its boots?

Usually in the autumn, the lobster retires to a secluded place where the shell loosens as a soft covering develops beneath the old shell. It works desperately, and by tremulous spasmodic motions casts off the shell, and then withdraws the legs from their casing. The now defenseless animal retires to a hole in a nearby rock, while a new and larger shell of the proper size to accommodate it, grows and develops and hardens in a few days.

The shells of crustaceans are very brittle, and limbs are easily broken and detached—a most serious complication, one would think. This defect is compensated by another remarkable provision, which makes possible the production of an entirely new limb in place of the one lost. Examples like these are numberless, and I think I shall devote another session to a further study of these phenomena. They are surely interesting.

I know that very many of you are fascinated with these discussions and the evidence they provide for a personal God. I am sure that this conviction in your minds, that there must be an intelligent Creator, is proving vastly comforting and exciting.

This is the great truth mentioned hundreds of times in the Bible. We cannot, we MUST not ignore it. If we do—and we have ignored it in the past as a nation—we must expect judgment

from the hyoid, a U-shaped bone at the base of the tongue. The tongue also is provided with a thick horny covering.

It is the hand by which food and drink are conveyed to the mouth...

...

THE EDITOR'S Notes

by John R. Rice

Here I am at home again, after fifteen vigorous days in Muskegon, Michigan; Ashland, Ohio; Macon, Georgia; and Anniston, Alabama. Now for two days I have been working hard to catch up with the mail, prepare copy for THE SWORD OF THE LORD, and supervise the work.

The Macon-Anniston SWORD Conferences

The Sword of the Lord Conference on Revival and Soul Winning at Macon, Georgia, October 10 to 13, was greatly blessed of God. The evening services increased in attendance. Hundreds subscribed for THE SWORD OF THE LORD. The closing night there was a mighty moving of the Spirit upon hearts and many new resolutions were made, many new dedications.

Thursday morning, Oct. 14, I rose at 3:30 a.m., to catch the 4:10 train to Atlanta and Anniston, Alabama. We arrived at Anniston at 9:30 a.m., and were in time for the services at 10:00, 10:45, and 12:00 noon, when I spoke. And then we had a dinner for preachers with thirty present.

As many as fifty preachers were present in several of the different services of the Anniston Conference, and there was a blessed moving of the Spirit on many hearts, I trust.

One of the sweetest parts of the conferences to me was to have with me Joanna and Joy, my two younger daughters. They sang very sweetly, were very popular, and, I think, proved to be a genuine blessing. My brother, Evangelist Bill Rice, was a tower of strength and helped carry the burden of promotion and presiding, as well as preaching with power. And Evangelist Hugh Pyle was anointed with God's blessing and blessed many hearts.

We closed with a final service Sunday afternoon. Then eight of us (Bill's family of five, my two daughters and I) got in Bill Rice's car and were driven to Chatta-

nooga. We arrived just in time to catch a train, the Georgian, to Chicago. We rested and chatted, had coffee and sandwiches, then settled down in the chair car with pillows for the night. Mrs. Rice met us in Chicago at 8:25 a.m., and now we are back

(Continued on page 9)

FLORIDA CONFERENCES CANCELED!

The editor greatly regrets to announce that the large conferences on soul winning and revival planned for Pensacola and Panama City, Florida, November 17 through 20, and for the city auditoriums in Lakeland and Tampa, Florida, November 21 through 25, have been cancelled. Prayerful consultation and consideration of the facts by the editor, by associate editor Bill Rice, and by the editor's assistant, Evangelist Hugh Pyle, led us to the conclusion that the enormous expense anticipated with such a heavy program, so much travelling and advertising expenses, would not be justified by the degree of co-operation provided. We do not feel that we should ask the greatly blessed men of God and the famous musicians on the program to come for ordinary crowds, and THE SWORD OF THE LORD has no fund from which we could pay the expenses of such a conference if the local support of pastors and people was not sufficient to care for the heavy program. We are sorry for the inconvenience caused, and we are deeply grateful to the loyal pastors in each of the cities mentioned who offered to co-operate fully. God willing, we will join these pastors in some plan which they may arrange and which will be tailored to fit the needs and possibilities. God bless them every one!

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nooga. We arrived just in time to catch a train, the Georgian, to Chicago. We rested and chatted, had coffee and sandwiches, then settled down in the chair car with pillows for the night. Mrs. Rice met us in Chicago at 8:25 a.m., and now we are back

of the severest kind. We have been in the midst of a devastating war. Many causes are assigned, and people constantly ask why God permits such insane destruction of life. It is argued that an omnipotent Creator, righteous and holy and peace-loving—if there be such a Being—has apparently forgotten this world, or does not care. The question comes, "Why did He not put an immediate stop to the carnage?"

Friends, God does not bring on war. It is caused by the sin of mankind—universal and defiant sin. There is but one way out and that is the way of confession and humiliation—a way which unregenerate nations are loath to travel. God's warnings have been disregarded, and the result is terror and death from vicious enemies.

In Amos 3:10, 11, are these words: "They know not to do right... THEREFORE thus saith the Lord: An adversary shall there be even round about the land; and he shall bring down thy strength from thee, and thy dwelling-places shall be spoiled."

Individually, we may protect ourselves against danger and death. I offer you an insurance policy that gives you immediate and everlasting promise of victory, peace and joy through time and eternity. You know where you can secure it—from the outstretched hand of the Man of Calvary—the Christ of Golgotha. Will you turn His way today? He's wonderful.

Just as I am, thine own to be,
Friend of the young, who lovest me,
To consecrate myself to thee,
O Jesus Christ, I come.

Just as I am, young, strong and free,
To be the best that I can be,
For truth, and righteousness and Thee.

Lord of my life, I come.
—M. Farmingham

(This book is now out of print. We are sorry we cannot fill orders for it.)



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Subscription rates: \$2.50 per year, \$5 for three years. Canada and foreign countries \$3.00 a year, \$6.50 for three years.

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Newton, Kansas, under the act of March 3, 1879.
Office of Publication: The Sword of the Lord, 129 W. 6th St., Newton, Ks., or the Editorial office at 214 W. Wesley, St., Wheaton, Illinois. Please send all Correspondence and undeliverable copies to The Sword of the Lord Editorial and Executive office at 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois.



It is the hand by which food and drink are conveyed to the mouth...

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3. Does the Promised Kingdom of Christ Now Exist or Will There Be a Future Reign?
4. Is the Church Israel?
5. Are Children Saved Because One Parent Is Saved?

By Editor John R. Rice

A reader writes of a minister with whom he often talks who presents "Reformed" theology or "Covenant" theology. This SWORD reader says "he holds some peculiar views which I don't believe are scriptural, so could you help me out?"

Here is the editor's answer.

Dear _____:

Your preacher brother-in-law is certainly wrong in some of his contentions, if you have understood him properly.

1. He is wrong in saying Christ did not die for all men. Christ certainly did die for all men, and wants all to be saved. First John 2:2 says, "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." It would not be honest to say that "the whole world" does not mean the whole world.

Again, II Peter 3:9 says, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." No one goes to Hell by God's choice. He is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." So anybody could repent and could be saved. It is not God's choice when people are lost.

Again, Revelation 22:17 says, "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Honest people must take the Bible at face value. This Scripture plainly invites "whosoever will" to be saved. And no preacher has a right to give an invitation less than that. Also, nobody has a right to make any Scripture contradict these plain Scriptures. To do so is misinterpretation.

2. You say, "He tells me that only children of believing parents that die in infancy go to Heaven—and babies of unbelievers that die do not go to Heaven. What do you think of that?" I think that he has built a theology without a line of Scripture to back it. There is not even a hint in the Bible that children of Christian parents are automatically saved and that children of unconverted parents are automatically lost.

It is true that every child born in the world has a tainted, sinful nature. But I Corinthians 15:21, 22 says, "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." The Scripture here plainly means that whatever was lost in Adam's sin has been repurchased for us by Christ's death. So every little baby who has not yet come to be an intentional sinner, an accountable sinner, is kept safe by the blood of Christ until death or until he becomes an accountable sinner. So every infant who dies goes to Heaven because of Christ's death, which paid for the sins of the whole world. It is unfortunate that some of so-called "Covenant Theology" was manufactured without a sound, scriptural background. Presbyterian and Reformed theologians, however, have to have such a theology to justify the sprinkling of babies and taking them into the church, or to give up that unscriptural practice. The idea that children of believers, whether converted or not, are proper members of a church is wholly contrary to the New Testament. In Bible times no one was ever received in a church except on public profession of faith in Christ,

and that is what the Great Commission teaches.

3. You say, "He also tells me that Jesus Christ is reigning as King now, and that there isn't going to be any millennium." However, note the following Scriptures and see that he is wrong. In Luke 1:32, 33 the angel made the following promise to Mary about Jesus, "... and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever." The throne of David was at Jerusalem, not in Heaven. The house of Jacob means literal Jews, not converted Gentiles. This has not yet been fulfilled.

It is true that spiritually Christ is a King and that we who are Christians "have been translated into the kingdom of his dear Son" (Col. 1:13). But that is not David's kingdom which is promised for the future.

The time for the setting up of this future kingdom of Christ is clearly stated in II Timothy 4:1, "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom." That kingdom will be set up at the resurrection of the dead and at the appearing of Christ at His second coming, as the Scripture here clearly says.

Christ is not now sitting on His own throne. Read Revelation 3:21 "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." Jesus is now sitting with the Father in His throne. In the future Jesus will sit on His own throne and will appoint overcomers to sit with Him then as He now sits with the Father.

The whole question of a literal reign of Christ on earth is discussed very fully and with many Scriptures in my pamphlet, *Christ's Literal Reign on Earth From David's Throne at Jerusalem*, 24 large pages, 15c.

4. I think you need not take seriously the rather foolish "claim" that the church is Israel because Stephen called Israel the church in the wilderness. The word *church* simply means a called-out assembly. In Acts 19:39, 41 the word *assembly*, referring to that mob of Ephesus, is a translation of the same Greek word *ekklesia*, which is translated *church* in Acts 7:38 where Stephen spoke of Israel in the wilderness. Israel gathered at Mount Sinai was an assembly, but not a Christian church. The mob in Ephesus was an assembly, but not a Christian church. Neither one necessarily represented the body of Christ, though some individuals in each case may have been Christians.

I would not fret because your brother-in-law says you "gave up your birthright" when you were baptized by immersion. Naturally people like for their loved ones to stay with them in their own denomination, but it is wrong to worship a denomination and make it an idol. Every Christian should learn to go by the Bible instead of the traditions of men and a human denomination.

5. First Corinthians 7:14 says, "For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy." But that simply says that the children of a mixed marriage are still legitimate children, not illegitimate. A Christian who is married

Was the Philippian Jailor Immersed?

By the Editor

July 30, 1952.

Mrs. Edith Woody
Forks
Washington

Dear Mrs. Woody:

I will try to answer your Bible questions.

1. You say, "Do you think that a minister who doesn't believe in immersion for baptism is a fundamental preacher?"

ANSWER: Yes, one may be a fundamental preacher who does not understand the Bible teaching of baptism by immersion. For example, one can be a good Christian who does not baptize by immersion. But one cannot be a good Christian who does not believe in the inspiration of the Bible, in the deity, virgin birth, bodily resurrection, and atoning death of Jesus Christ. There are some great doctrines that are absolutely essential to true Christian faith. One is called fundamental in doctrine if he believes these foundation doctrines. Baptism is important, but the deity of Christ is much more important as a doctrine. Immersion is taught, I believe, in the Bible as believer's baptism, but certainly the blood of Jesus Christ is much more important than baptism. Christians ought to center on the main things first. We ought to call all of those brethren who believe the great fundamentals of the faith and who have been born again by faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

2. You ask, "Where do you think that Paul baptized the jailor and all who believed at that time in Acts, chapter 6. The thirty-third verse said they were baptized the same hour of the night. Do you think they may have sprinkled some water on them there in the house?"

ANSWER: I believe that the jailor and his family, converted that night past midnight, were baptized by immersion. The Scripture says that the jailor "sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out..." So the conversion, the preaching, and the baptizing all took place outside of the jail.

Then verse thirty-three says, "And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway." The jailor may well have taken Paul and Silas to a nearby pool or stream and washed their stripes. "He took them." Where he took them we do not know. And at the same place, it is inferred, the jailor and his family were baptized. The word *baptized* here is the same word which means to plunge or dip, as it is used elsewhere in the New Testament. And we have no reason to suppose that it meant any different kind of baptizing than that when John the Baptist baptized the people in the River Jordan, or when Philip led the eunuch down

to a lost husband or wife ought not to break the marriage; their children are legitimate and their marriage is binding. But that Scripture says nothing about infant baptism nor about salvation. It certainly does not mean to contradict all the other Scriptures in the Bible saying that people must be born again and making church membership wait until one has trusted Christ for salvation.

The Bible does not teach that all infants are saved. It simply teaches that infants are not accountable sinners and so are kept safe until they become accountable and deliberate sinners or until they die.

I think I would not especially argue with my kinspeople on religious matters unless they show signs of really wanting to know the truth and to get help.

In the Saviour's name, yours,
John R. Rice

into the water and baptized him, in Acts 8:38. There is another Greek word for sprinkling, but it is never used for baptism.

At the same time, let me remind you that there were no unaccountable infants baptized in the case of the jailor's family, for verse thirty-two tells us that Paul and Silas "spoke unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house." Everybody in the house was old enough to hear the Gospel. And verse thirty-four tells us, that the jailor "set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house." Everybody in the house believed in Christ, with personal saving faith.

3. You ask, "Do you believe we should know what a preacher believes concerning this matter, if we should go hear him, and pay him our money, unless we believe as he does?"

ANSWER: I believe that if possible one should belong to a church which preaches what one believes about baptism. But I do not believe that a good Christian ought to limit his hearing of the Gospel to those who believe and practice immersion. For example, Billy Sunday and J. Wilbur Chapman were Presbyterians. I do not suppose that either one was baptized by immersion; and I feel sure neither of them preached baptism by immersion. Yet I would have gladly gone to hear them, and would have supported their work with money. They were right on the main things, and I would rather have a man getting multitudes saved, and helping Christians to live right, even if he is not clear on some minor detail like the form of baptism. Some people sin against God in preferring denomination to the truth. I know people who would gladly support a man who was right on baptism, but who was wrong on the deity of Jesus Christ and the blood atonement and the plan of salvation, but would not support a man who was right on these main great doctrines though not agreeing with them on immersion. That is sinful and wicked. In the Baptist denomination, for example, there are some who follow any man with a Baptist name though he may be an infidel like Harry Emerson Fosdick or like Dr. Beavan or others who do not believe the Bible, who reject the virgin birth of Christ, who do not believe in the blood atonement of Jesus Christ. People who prefer a Baptist infidel to a Presbyterian Christian, for example, are idolaters, worshipping a denomination instead of Jesus Christ.

Let us be true in every doctrine the best we can, but let us be true in the greatest doctrine of all, that is, loyalty to Jesus Christ and the truth of the Bible. And that loyalty will make us love others who are loyal to Christ. How I wish I had had a chance to support the work of beloved D. L. Moody! He attended a Baptist theological seminary for a little while. He was a great Bible preacher, a marvelous soul winner. I do not know that he was ever baptized by immersion and he did not preach on baptism; but he did great good. How much better it is to be right on the main things, and then to be prayerful and loving with those who may differ with us on minor matters.

I always make my own position very clear. My book, *Bible Baptism* (eight chapters, sixty-four pages, fifty cents), is one of the most thorough Bible studies on this question. But I love the people who love Jesus Christ and the Bible and are true to the great fundamentals of the faith, and I put first things first.

In the Saviour's name, yours,
John R. Rice

Buy your Christmas gifts early! Select gifts for your Sunday School pupils, friends, loved ones from this issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Mail order is a convenient and handy way to shop.

WITH THE Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

By the Editor

Rev. S. B. Whitfield of Box 301, Staunton, Virginia, has kept busy for the Lord this year, not only in his own church (Baptist Bible Church) but also in revivals. The latest report of a campaign was September 26-October 6 at Paschall Baptist Church, Roxboro, North Carolina. Rev. Floyd Paschall is pastor. The report shows ten saved, nine rededications and seven united with the church on profession of faith and transfer of letters. Mr. Whitfield's immediate campaigns include: Calvary Bible Church, Dugspur, Virginia, October 29-31; Evangelical Methodist Church, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, November 6-21.

Pastor Harvey Schoenwald of First Baptist Church, Salida, Colorado, sends a report on a revival held in his church by Sword of the Lord EVANGELIST EDDIE WAGNER (September 14-26). There were 22 first-time decisions for Christ, and 20 rededications. Many others made decisions of various kinds. The pastor says that since the meeting he has baptized 9 adults and more are to be baptized.

Rev. Leroy H. Thompson of Baptist Bible Church, Fort Collins, Colorado, has a burden for lost souls outside of Fort Collins as well as in. Recently he went to an abandoned church in Severance, Colorado, and there witnessed the salvation of 32 souls. The meeting was still in progress when he wrote October 12. Before these services Mr. Thompson was in New Orleans, Louisiana, and when he

spoke at the Jefferson Parish Prison, 22 men were saved.

The First Baptist Church of Clinton, Massachusetts, of which Rev. Philip C. Hughey, Jr., is the pastor, has just completed a twelve-day revival with Sword of the Lord EVANGELIST J. OSCAR WELLS of Bethany, Oklahoma—the first revival there in over 13 years. Although Satan's opposition was strong, yet God poured out His blessing, honored the plain preaching from the Word, and 56 made first-time decisions for Christ, seventeen of them coming for baptism in the church and four by church letter. The evangelist set up a good program of evangelism-visitation, which the pastor hopes will keep up the winning of the lost to Christ in that community.

"More than a score of persons professed Christ as Saviour during the Crusade for Christ held in Hollis Center, Maine, September 15-October 3," writes EVANGELIST FRANK HARPELL, 47 Pinevale Avenue, Reading, Massachusetts, a majority of the converts being older people.

EVANGELIST DAN VESTAL, Seminary Hill, Fort Worth, Texas, has just completed a revival meeting with the South Side Baptist Church of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. There were 27 additions to the church by conversion and letter, and other rededications. Ray Price directed the music.

A Texas-wide Premillennial Prophetic Conference held recently at

News Flashes from Christian Schools

By Rev. Walter E. Handford, Vice-Pres., Sword of the Lord Foundation

Character Scholarships for Wheaton College Campus Student Workers

This very interesting word comes from Wheaton College regarding a special character scholarship being offered. As far as I know this is the first time such a scholarship has been offered and I believe Wheaton College should be congratulated for this type of recognition.

Wheaton College students who work at least eight hours per week for an entire semester on one of numerous campus jobs will be considered for character scholarships based on the number of hours worked and a ten-point rating by

their immediate supervisor. The awards will consist of ten to twenty per cent of the semester's wage. The student must complete satisfactorily his assigned duties and his status must be that of a full-time student.

In announcing the awards, President V. Raymond Edman stated: "Whoever heard of college appointments such as an instructorship in janitorial research—a research fellowship on the scrub gang—or an associate professorship in the dining hall?" He went on to say, "Well, I have; in fact, I made them myself."

Dr. Edman, in setting up the supervisor's rating sheet, had in mind that it was as important for a student to learn punctuality, courtesy, cooperation, diligence, dependability, and efficiency in his employment as it is for him to be studious in library and laboratory. Good work habits are as valuable as study habits, and both must and can be learned.

Concluding his message to students and supervisors alike, Dr. Edman said: "This generation has

(Continued on page 9)

the First Baptist Church of Houston over a 2-day period, had Dr. William Ward Ayer of New York City as the principal speaker.

Dr. Ayer gave twelve addresses in August at the Winona Lake Bible Conference in Indiana.

In September the Cunningham Evangelistic Party (P.O. Box 1811, Chattanooga, Tennessee) experienced a real taste of revival in a Revival Crusade at the First Baptist Church, Newtown, Ohio, where Rev. Raymond Hogue is pastor. The excellent crowds each night and the many decisions for Christ at every service (with 27 coming forward the final Sunday) indicated that further services should be held, if possible. Although another week was impossible due to impending engagements, the evangelist and his Gospel artist, Leroy Sheveland, were able to give an extra evening, and at this service five more adults responded to the invitation, three of whom were for salvation. Of the 70 decisions evidenced, nearly half were for salvation and church membership.

At present the Cunningham Evangelistic Party is in a Revival Crusade at the Calvary Baptist Church, Roseville, Michigan, Rev. E. F. Partridge, pastor. With one week to go, already 46 decisions for Christ have been witnessed. Last Sunday (October 10) despite an all-day rainstorm, a record of 571 were in Sunday School, and the church was packed for the morning and evening services. Twenty-four responded to the invitation Sunday. According to the report, over half of these who have

come forward will unite with the church, 12 of them being 6 couples (husbands and wives). About 20 have been first-time conversions.

The evangelist's next four meetings will be held in Minnesota. He asked Sword readers to pray.

Rev. Paul B. Smith, B.A., associate pastor of The Peoples Church, Toronto, and Johnny Ambrose, the Canadian Gospel tenor, have commenced the first in a series of nation-wide evangelistic campaigns throughout New Zealand and Australia.

Their first meeting will be held in The Baptist Tabernacle of Auckland, New Zealand. It will continue in The Unity Hall and be concluded in the auditorium of the Auckland Town Hall. The Canadian Team's itinerary will then take them to Christ Church and Timaru on South Island, and the New Zealand series will end with a Union Campaign in Wellington, on North Island.

In Australia they will be conducting campaigns in Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide, Newcastle, and Sydney. They expect to be back in Canada by Christmas.

Dr. Bob Jones SAYS:

This is being dictated just after returning from an eight-day evangelistic campaign in Dr. Palmer Muntz's church in Buffalo, New York. During this eight-day meeting, we met a large number of our former Bob Jones University students who are in that section of New York; and all of them that we saw during the meeting are soul winners. One young man who attended the services said, "I was in Bob Jones University just two months; but because of circumstances over which I had no control, I had to leave; but the two months I spent in the school made me a soul winner; and I have been winning souls ever since."

Bob Jones University's high academic and cultural standards, its business efficiency, and its practical approach to the problems of life are recognized everywhere. It, of course, stands without apology for old-time orthodoxy and believes the Bible from the first verse of Genesis to the last verse of Revelation. But Bob Jones University knows scholarship, culture, efficiency and orthodoxy are not enough to equip people for Christian work. A Christian is not all out for God that does not have a passion for souls. Bob Jones Uni-

versity is sending soul winners into all walks of life. The missionaries that go from this campus to the foreign field do not go to dig in and just build programs and hold things together. They go to the mission field to win souls.

Now, if you are interested in a school that is doing the job under God that Bob Jones University is doing, you should invest some of the money God has given you in this work. Remember, one-third of what you send, unless it is definitely earmarked for a specific purpose, will be used for the spread of the Gospel, and one-third will be used to help students that are not able to pay all of their expenses, and one-third will be used for our building program. We are counting on your financial co-operation. We have nobody back of us except individual friends that believe in the things for which Bob Jones University stands. Please let us hear from you promptly, and don't forget to pray daily and pray earnestly for the University. Thank you and God bless you.

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The Battle of the Bottle

(Continued from page 1)

creasingly moving off the farm and into the city, most of the old-timers will remember the frosty night, the single-tree and block-and-tackle, the submerged barrel of boiling water heated with hot iron, and the various and sundry other items which combined to produce a "hog-killing."

I recall that when dad, who was both a minister and gentleman farmer, butchered a hog out on the ranch he always used plenty of salt. Those sessions around the large table on the back porch produced many valuable lessons. Dad would carve the pork into loin and shoulder chops, spare ribs, bacon sides, etc., and would pack each piece of meat in salt. He informed me there were harmful bacteria that tended to cause the meat to spoil, and that the salt provided a barrier against the invading menace.

And right here is the first reason why the Church cannot afford to compromise with the liquor traffic in any of its myriad forms today. As the salt of the earth, the Church's task is to stand to the defense of things sacred and to combat all that would jeopardize the welfare of body, mind and soul.

God's chief interest is not swirling nebulae or churning galaxies in far-off space. Nor is God primarily interested in skyscrapers and factories, jet planes, super-bombs and other creations of mortal ingenuity. God's main interest is man! Because of His original affection and His great love for this fragile creature through the centuries, there exists a spiritual bond between God and man which only sin can sever. Anything that would disturb or impair that mystic link is wrong! The roots of mortal life are interwoven into the very fabric of God's heart, and man cannot suffer injury without its being felt by God Himself.

In making its insidious attack upon humanity, the liquor industry has made an indirect attack on Almighty God; a fact which must ultimately prove its undoing.

Our nation is composed of states; states of cities; cities of homes and homes of people. Since people are the object of God's greatest affection, God would have the Church take its part against a modern denizen of Hell which now threatens the very existence of the nation itself. In this, the Church's job is clearly defined. It is to cry aloud and spare not. It is to place its weight squarely against the system which has caused the present-day tide of

drunkenness, immorality and lawlessness, and like chemical salt, to protect and defend those institutions which are near to the heart of God.

Abraham Lincoln said, "The first duty of any government is to protect its citizens." The many evils extant in the land resultant from intoxication is proof that in repealing the Eighteenth Amendment and legalizing liquor our government failed its people at this primary duty. Could any conscientious Christian fail to see the Church's responsibility to press for new legislation and the enactment of such laws as would result in such protection?

According to the famous jurist, Blackstone, the liquor traffic cannot be said, in the strictest sense, to be legal. His conjecture, "A thing morally wrong cannot be legally right," is based upon the premise of the common law. According to this law anything approved of God is right while anything disapproved of God is wrong. Blackstone contended that a commodity to be legal must at the same time be moral. But the liquor traffic is not moral! It is an impairing, wrecking, destroying force bent on the extermination of all that is precious to God and man. It contains not one refining influence; not one exalting trait.

It is common knowledge that America is fast reaching the saturation point in crime and wrongdoing. The list of our sins is reaching stratospheric heights, with liquor consumption one of the strongest contributing factors. Liquor figured into more than 60% of the 370,000 divorces granted by the courts of the land last year. J. Edgar Hoover tells us that 65% of the 2,036,510 major crimes committed in 1953 resulted directly or indirectly from intoxication. An investigation will show that between 35% and 50% of the 37,600 persons killed in highway accidents during the same twelve months were victims of the liquor menace. Between 65% and 70% of the 3 million victims of venereal disease within our borders contracted the infection while under the influence of liquor.

To legalize and condone such a curse is to render liberty, safety and justice impossible, whether on the individual or the collective scale. Liquor has turned many of our American homes into frightful chambers of horror. Liquor has converted our highways into avenues of wholesale slaughter. Liquor has thrown a horrible shadow over our nation's Capital until it is being looked upon from abroad as a den of drunkards, grafters, thieves, cheats and cheap crooks. And all because the Church sleeps at the switch. The Battle of the Bottle is on! The blood of innocents cries out from every quarter demanding that every Christian stand to be counted on the Lord's side. Our God, whose "wrath is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men," is against the liquor traffic. As loyal devotees to His sacred cause, we must take our unequivocal stand against it too.

Salt Is a Purifying Agent

It becomes our duty not only to protect, but also to go into the corrupt situation and clean it up. As faithful evangelists of the Gospel, we are to both call the prodigal home from the hog pen and to put the hog pen out of commission! The average city in America desperately needs a house cleaning. Investigation will show that there are approximately three liquor outlets for each church and five for each schoolhouse. The ordinary telephone directory will list four bartenders for every clergyman. A check of the financial status will reveal that the liquor industry is taking in more than five times the amount of money being received by all churches, Catholic, Protestant and Jewish. A call at the local police department will disclose that between 60% and 70% of their budget goes toward processing drunks and taking care of drink-caused crimes! You will find statistically that every fortieth person in town was arrested for intoxication last year, that there is a saloon for every seventy families, that every third teenager

is imbibing, and that almost half those drinking are women. At the courthouse they will tell you that there is one divorce petition filed for every three marriage licenses issued. And if you contact the state capital to obtain a breakdown you will be alarmed to discover that the city drank more than twenty-seven gallons of intoxicating beverages per capita last year!

Into this grievous situation the Christian forces must enter with sharp sword and under the power of God to fight the fight of faith. There is no room for compromise in this relentless war against the legions of darkness. We are bound to declare as did the prophet, "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink!" (Hab. 2:15).

Salt Is a Perfecting Agent

The Bible plainly teaches that no human power can affect the perfect Kingdom which shall come upon earth when Christ returns with His raptured saints. In that day righteousness shall flood the earth like waters cover the sea. But this fact does not absolve the Church from its duty of establishing as much righteousness as is humanly possible. True Christians have every right to be active in measures for civic and social improvement. Paul evidenced this burden in practically every epistle he wrote. It is plainly our primary task to convert the soul; it is plainly our secondary task to remove from the pathway of that soul those temptations which would entice him to ruin.

Just as unsalted food is unsavory, an unchurched community is unfit for living. The churches of a community provide that seasoning which results in a more noble society and a higher level of human conduct. Perhaps it would be well to capture a mental picture of the enormous task which awaits the Church as it goes about to perfect the national situation.

The Eighteenth Amendment was repealed in 1932. The following year Americans drank 1 1/4 gallons of intoxicants per capita. By 1935 it was up to 1 1/4 gallons. By 1937 it was 15 gallons. By 1945 it stood at 20 gallons. Last year our people imbibed 27 1/2 gallons for every man, woman and child.

The peril we face may be seen in the fact that there are 95 million users of intoxicants in the United States today. That is an increase of 65 million over 1932, or a rate of increase of approximately 3 million new drinkers per year. If the trend persists, it will take the liquor traffic just twenty-three more years to capture the whole nation.

Alcoholism has now become our nation's major health problem. Of the four million "problem drinkers" in the USA, a million are chronic alcoholics and will eventually die under its curse. In actual deaths brought about by its influence, the toll exceeds that of cancer, polio or tuberculosis. It is impossible to get an accurate figure, but it is known that a major percentage of deaths listed as heart failures was brought about by alcoholism.

Nor is its onslaught confined to the lower strata of society. It is no respecter of persons. In one survey conducted in Boston among 30,000 who applied for the cure there were listed 600 medical doctors; 300 priests and clergymen; 170 dentists; 650 lawyers; 18 judges and more than 1,000 tradesmen and heads of industries.

Last year the people of the United States spent more than nine billion dollars for intoxicating liquor. It has been a little over a billion minutes since Christ was born in Bethlehem, and our drink bill last year amounted to a spending of nine dollars per minute since the birth of Christ. In silver dollars placed edge to edge the amount would form an inch and a half silver chain reaching eight times around the world at the equator. To count that amount at the rate of two dollars per second would take one hundred and forty-five years!

It is evident that to dispel the tremendous darkness which has settled like a pall of doom over our nation each Christian must beam the borrowed light of Christ into every stronghold of Satan. We must never hide our light under a bushel. The only full and final answer to the devastation

(Continued on page 6)

False Cults Exposed

By Viola Walden

According to a recent conservative estimate, approximately 50 million persons in the United States have been caught in the coils of false religious systems, exclusive of those identified with what is considered by some the worst of them all—Modernism. If you are a member of a church that teaches true doctrine, then thank God.

The Religion Analysis Service, Incorporated, with headquarters at 902 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota, is a false isms expose service, a nonprofit corporation. While undenominational, it is truly evangelical. This organization will furnish you literature exposing Roman Catholicism, Unity, Seventh-Day Adventism, Spiritism, Modernism, Evolution, Atheism, Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses, and other false religious systems.

The good sermon in the October 22nd SWORD OF THE LORD, "Escape From the Truth," was written by Rev. Herbert V. Caneday, a Member of the Board of Directors of this organization. Write them at the above address for a catalog.

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The parsonage that in 1944 sold for \$7,500 would probably bring \$15,000 on today's market. In the decade just passed, prices of churches, food and cars have gone sky high. So has your economic value as the wage earner of your family. You may have had adequate life, health and accident protection for your family back five, ten, or twenty years ago. But how much protection will your policies buy today? It will pay you to do some realistic thinking about your insurance program right now. It may mean the difference between security and hardship for your loved ones.



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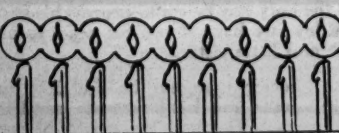
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The Battle of the Bottle

(Continued from page 5)

wrought by drink is heart regeneration. Prohibition, desirable as it may be, is only a partial answer. Liquor must be cut off at the source. Through the preaching of the Gospel in all its glorious implications we must win those who have been victimized to an experience of new birth that breaks the chains of habit and gives the impetus to live a life of purity; a life of total and complete abstinence.

Salt Is a Preserving Agent

As in the case of foodstuff, so in the world, salt is the saving factor. Were it not for a pinch of salt in an ancient day (Noah and his family) all human life would have been extinguished. Again we see this vital truth portrayed when Abraham was told by heavenly visitors that for the sake of ten righteous people God would spare all the inhabitants of the cities of the plains. A strong and faithful body of believers is America's best guarantee of survival. If the salt loses its savor, this nation cannot possibly endure.

Toynbee, the famous historian, has informed us that no less than sixteen major civilizations have perished because of crumbling ideals and the resultant breakdown of moral character. History will prove that the chief cause for national dissolution through the centuries has been the Bottle! In the beginning it played a strong role in anti-deluvian depravity which brought about the flood. It has always been high on the list of offences against God for which judgment has been pronounced upon whole nations.

Do not underrate the Bottle's satanic strength. Using the experts' figures, forth from its evil-smelling spout in the year 1953 in this country came 4,600 murders, 11,206 rapes and 54,758 assaults.

The Bottle is the murderer of both nations and men. Alexander, the most brilliant general of world history, wept for more worlds to conquer at twenty-nine, but at thirty-three was dead because of drunkenness. Lord Byron's outstanding career was cut short when he died at thirty-six a drunkard. Steven Foster's songs seem deathless. His compositions have not diminished in their popularity with the people to this day. How many more such songs might have flowed from his prolific pen had it not been stilled by liquor when he was only thirty-eight! The greatest poet and short story writer the South ever produced, Edgar Allen Poe, watched the Bottle tear his hopes to shreds, wreck his body, and plunge his soul into a dark eternity at the age of forty-two.

It is time we took our eyes off communism long enough to see that the main tool with which the Devil is destroying America is a Bottle! It is a Bottle brewed with tears, thickened with blood, flavored with death and mixed with every imaginable sorrow!

Follow the Bottle across the nation and see for yourself the grim and sordid tragedies it has left in its horrible wake.

Follow the Bottle to Chicago where a young mother sobs over the shrouded coffin of her husband. Three small children are beside her, scarce able to absorb the full meaning of the sombre occasion, but they will grow up without a father. The driver of an automobile couldn't leave the Bottle alone. He swerved across the middle line to hit their daddy in head-on collision while he was returning from work. The Bottle has no respect for human life, and I have no respect for the Bottle!

Follow the Bottle to San Francisco. A man sits in his automobile beside a public playground. Beside him on the seat lies a bottle, drained of most of its contents. Under the influence of liquor the man entices two small girls into the automobile and drives them to a wooded section, making them draw straws to see which his victim shall be. The little six-year-old draws the wrong straw and before the horrified gaze of her eight-year-old friend she is brutally ravished and left half-dead in the thicket to be discovered by a passer-by. The Bottle

has no respect for little children, and I have no respect for the Bottle!

Follow the Bottle to Evansville where a young father coming off the job pauses at the open door of a tavern to find his wife drinking at the bar. Continuing on home to his two little ones he finds no heat in the house to dispel the January chill. He discovers an icebox devoid of food. Questioning the girl and her small brother who sit shivering beneath a tattered blanket on the davenport, he learns that his wife has spent her food money on liquor and has even pawned the winter's supply of coal to get enough to satisfy her insatiable appetite for drink. Tears start down his cheeks as he speaks in subdued tones to the two children, giving them their choice of staying with mother or taking a trip with him.

"Where are you going, Daddy?" asks the ten-year-old girl.

"I'm taking a long journey from which I shall not return," answers the heartbroken father.

Both children beg their father to be taken along with him lest they fall into the clutches of their drunken mother whose brutality and sadistic tortures have left their little bodies marked with scars of violence. The father calmly walks to a bureau and takes from the drawer a loaded revolver. Placing the muzzle against each child's forehead he pulls the trigger, later turning the gun on himself. A few hours later the mother returns home to find the three bodies sprawled on the front room carpet and the following note tacked to the fireplace mantle:

"I came home to find the children cold and hungry. You have spent all the money I gave you for food to buy whiskey, and pawned the coal just so you could have more to drink. I have given the children their choice of staying with you or going with me and they both said they'd rather go with me. So I'm taking them along, and I hope you see their face in every cocktail you drink!"

The Bottle has no respect for the home, and I have no respect for the Bottle!

A release in a Los Angeles news-

paper made me sick all over. It told of how a mother had put her baby to sleep in a crib beside the fireplace and had left her husband to watch over him while she went to a midnight party. In court after the inquest every witness concurred that the man in question was a splendid husband and magnificent father—when he wasn't drunk! But when drunk he became a maniac. An empty whiskey bottle had been found beside his drunken form on his wife's return from the party, and in the crib lay the mangled, mutilated body of their baby. The drunken fiend had heated a poker white hot and thrust it into the nostril of the little fellow while he lay asleep. The baby awoke screaming, and the father thrust the poker down its throat. He kept probing with the heated poker until every opening of that little body had been subjected to unmentionable tortures. That father had mutilated and destroyed his own child.

And yet I wonder if the guilt does not spread out to every liquor salesman and even to those who by their vote approve it or by their passive attitude carelessly ignore it. The Bottle has no respect for mortal life or immortal soul, and I have no respect for the Bottle!

Is it right to build churches to save men and at the same time tolerate a traffic which destroys men?

Is it right to license a commodity which makes a man break the law and then punish that man for breaking the law?

Is it right to protect those who make paupers and criminals and at the same time tax sober men to take care of those paupers and criminals?

Is it right to tolerate an industry which is wrecking homes, destroying lives and damning souls?

Is it right to approve a traffic which is dragging our nation to perdition?

Herein is the Battle of the Bottle! And when every liquor bottle from Maine to California and from Canada to the Gulf shall have been broken, then shall America know the greatest victory she has known since the emancipation of the slaves under Abraham Lincoln, and the greatest victory she shall ever know until Christ comes in power and glory to rid the world of the last vestige of sin.

—THE END—

A Loving God Answers Prayer

(Continued from page 1)

to give a great and consuming love to one human heart for another human heart which cannot respond. At times persons doubt or deny that there is such a thing as dying of a broken heart. No doubt there are many such cases, true and loyal hearts longing for a response that never comes.

I was reading the other day of a man who was riding to the city with his nephew. The nephew said to his uncle:

"I am going to buy a few presents for my wife and for my mother."

The uncle said, "I never did much of that. I used to buy candy once in a while for the children but that was all."

The nephew replied, "Try it, uncle. Make auntie a New Year's present and see how it will work."

The elder man dropped into a quiet mood and did not talk a great deal as they finished their journey, but the younger man, having completed his errand and going into a large dry goods store to gather up an armful of bundles, found his uncle fingering a soft gray silk. After the nephew had aided the uncle in selecting the dress pattern, the uncle confided to him in a bashful sort of way that he had bought her a silver mounted toilet set—brush and comb and glass—and some other little things, and said,

"I am almost scared to give them to her."

"Well, uncle," said the boy, "they won't hurt her any. You tell me how it worked when you get through."

After the Christmas had come, the nephew was calling upon his uncle and the uncle seemed more than ever embarrassed and hesitant. Finally, when they were alone, he said:

"I put them on the bed and went

out of the room that she might find them. She did not come out and I got scared for fear that something had happened, and when I went and looked through the door, she was on her knees by the bed, sobbing over my gifts, and when I came into the room she came to me and called me 'pa' and kissed me."

It is unfortunate and not an uncommon thing that good people who really love one another should love thus without the expression of affection until it is too late—flowers on the coffin so many times where there are no flowers in the lifetime.

Why Has God Made the World so Beautiful?

Why are the blossoms of the crab apple so delicate in tint, compared with those of the pear tree? Why do we have the variety that there is in tulips, lilies, carnations, roses, and the like—the endless profusion of beauty in heaven above and in the earth beneath? I have no doubt but that God loves the beautiful Himself and that He has created a love for the beautiful things and that He has supplied the beautiful because He knows that His children love it.

So About Answers to Prayer

No one person, young or old, will read these words who is not dear to the heart of God. And even if he is living in sin, still he is dear to the heart of God. Jesus Christ left His throne in Heaven and came to this world to live the humble, self-denying life that He lived, and died a shameful, agonizing death on the cross, and He lay in a cave in the world which He Himself had made, because He loved the person who reads these lines. He is a changeless One. He loves men now as

(Continued on page 7)

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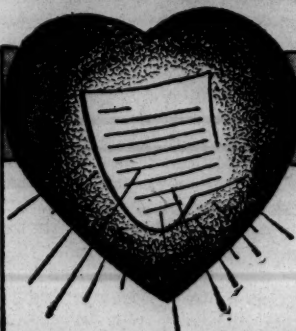
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A Loving God Answers Prayer

(Continued from page 6)

well as He did two thousand years ago and He will love them two thousand years hence as truly and with as Godlike fervor as He loves them now. It is one of the characteristics of affection that it seeks to supply needed good and seeks to ward off threatening evil from the loved being. This is an explanation of the fact that God makes so many promises to prayer and keeps them all.

My youngest girl was happily born. I remember when she was four or five years of age that she would run from one end of a long room to the other, stopping a moment, jump up and down four or five times, say, "Oh, I am so happy! Oh, I am so happy!" run as fast as she could to the farther end of the room, jump again, and say, "Oh, I am so happy! Oh, I am so happy!" Perhaps this sort of gladness is a peculiar possession of childhood. My impression is that it is found more frequently among young children than among persons who are older. Even when men and women are as glad as she, the realities of life give a more

sober tone than to the expression of the child. This is natural and we would not wish it to be otherwise, but beyond question, it is the will of God that every one of His children should be glad.

The sadness, the tears, the cries of pain that occasionally shock our own ears, sadden also the heart of God, and when He sees His children happy and glad, I know that He is pleased. When He finds them grieved and sad, I am sure He desires to administer the help which will make them as pleased as He would gladly see them.

Physical Needs

These bodies of ours are of the earth and time. I do not remember who it is, but someone says:

"When we begin to live, we begin to die."

This is not exactly true, but there is truth in it.

A friend of mine, who is an intern in a hospital, recently said to me:

"In our hospital men, women and little children are dying every day, and it is pitiful to see in how many ways death comes upon them."

My own daughter was night superintendent at a great hospital and I one time said to her, "How do people feel when they come to the hospital?"

"O, papa," she replied, "before they come to the hospital they have suffered so long and suffered so much that they do not think much of anything. They are a bit afraid, but they hope that some way or other they may be helped."

I have myself, though not living a life which has brought me more than is common in touch with physical suffering, seen enough of it to break my heart, and one of the things which drives men to prayer is physical need. Aches and pains, wasting, mutilation, impending death—these are the things which drive men to God and God sympathizes with these sufferings and seeks to relieve them so far as possible without spiritual injury to those who pray.

God has placed in the world remedies which naturally counteract every disease under which men suffer. He has given men skill to ascertain these remedies and to use them for the relief of suffering, and in tens of thousands of instances where human skill was unavailing, or where natural remedies failed, He has directly entered into the physical lives of men to rebuke diseases, to rebuke diseases of the most serious sort and to heal those who were sick. The most careless reader of the New Testament has observed the fact that the healing of bodily ailments was one of the most common things in the life of Jesus. As the hymn writer says:

*"And burdened ones where'er He came,
Brought out their sick, and blind,
and lame."*

Indeed they did and it is not recorded that in any one instance Jesus said that the disease was so serious or of so long continuance that it had passed beyond His power, and in no single instance did Jesus disregard a prayer for physical healing which the suffering ones uttered into His ear. If He is the same yesterday, today, and forever, why should He not answer the prayer of the rheumatic, the fever-smitten, the consumptive, the paralytic, who comes to Him, driven by their need? There is no doubt but that He is doing this sort of thing continually and He says to physical sufferers now as in the olden days, "Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:24).

The Spiritually Afflicted

It is one of the mistakes which Dr. Dowie made, that he attached too much importance to the healing of the body. That is important, but it is not all-important—it is not so important as that the spirit be well and strong. "The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?" (Prov. 18:14). That is, it is better to have a weak body with a strong spirit than to have a weak and wounded spirit, even though the body be well. Spiritual suffer-

ing is caused at times by temptations. How fiercely the fire burns against the soul! Temptations of the flesh, temptations of the world, temptations direct from Satan, the ruler of Hell—these temptations are so real oftentimes, so long continued, that the soul suffers. As the Word says, "ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations" (I Pet. 1:6). It is in such times that we experience what the Psalmist did when he said, "My soul cleaveth unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word" (Ps. 119:25). Wise men in such times pray and God hears their prayers. Sometimes He helps them one way, sometimes another, but He always helps them if they really pray.

A poor fellow who was overloaded cried out, "Lord, lighten my burden, or strengthen my back." It was a wise prayer for God sometimes increases our strength and sometimes He lightens our loads, but in some way He helps us if we ask for help. If one in times of great physical affliction or times of great temptation gives way to petulance, to anger, to irritability, and murmurs and complains against God, he increases his difficulty and deprives himself of vast remedies, for God does not permit any evil to come upon men without the hope of doing them good. How oftentimes His father-heart is grieved because He cannot help us as He would.

Financial Difficulties

Another prolific source of human sorrows is financial stress. While we live in these human bodies we shall need food, clothing, and shelter. These may be very primitive or they may be elaborate, but they are always needed, and sometimes by our own fault, sometimes by the fault of others, sometimes apparently without anyone's fault, there is dire need and distress because of the need. I think perhaps quite as common as suffering from physical ailment or temptation or spiritual difficulty, is suffering from the lack of money and the things which money can procure.

Oftentimes those who suffer are proud and suffer in silence. Many times they are not willing to have their need known. Sometimes they are not willing to have it supplied, but when hunger or cold grind and bite, pride is very apt to give way and even if it does not, if people cannot consent to speak to their fellow men, oftentimes there is a cry in their hearts, if not in their voices, after God and the ways in which God answers these prayers for help are numberless—sometimes through the hands and hearts of others, sometimes through increased wisdom and strength on the part of the needy one, sometimes by providential changes in the channels of trade, sometimes by what the world calls mere accidents, but in one way or another God meets the needs of men. I would in this place tell of some of His dealings with the college and some of His dealings with me personally, but that I planned to make these items the subject of the following chapter. There are, however, many, very many ways.

A Merchant Caught Short

I read not long ago of a merchant who was caught with a large amount of paper in the banks at a time when making loans was nearly or quite impossible. He went to the banks with which he had extensive dealings and without exception the officers said to him that they were withdrawing credits, not extending them, and that they could not let him have a dollar. Heavyhearted, he went to his home and his wife, meeting him at the door, said to him:

"Why, husband, are you sick?"

"No," he said, "I am not sick, but we are ruined."

"What is the matter?" said she, and he related the facts as I have stated them before. She smiled when he had completed his story and said to him:

"Is that all?"

"All?" he said, "I should think that was enough. This house will have to be sold. You will have to live in a rented house or in a cottage. Tomorrow I shall be posted throughout the city as a bankrupt. I should think that was enough."

She said to her husband, "Have you prayed?"

He said, "No, I had not thought of that yet."

"Why," she said, "that is the first thing to do. Let us pray together, and then trust God and all will be well."

They went to prayer. God heard them and then they went to sleep. In the morning he went early to his office but had hardly entered it before the president of one of the strong banks of the city came in and said to him:

"You were, I believe, in the bank yesterday afternoon."

"Yes," he said, "I needed some money for paper falling due today and I was in your bank."

"I believe the cashier told you you could not draw on us at this time."

"Yes," the merchant replied, "that is what he said."

"Well," said the banker, "we have conferred about the matter and we have decided that you may draw on us up to \$50,000."

It was quite sufficient to carry him over the strain and he came through the time of an actual panic without impairment of credit.

There is no doubt at all but that thousands of men who fail would experience the same mercy if they would ask in the same way.

Not long since I read of two men in a small town, one of whom knew how to pray, the other of whom did not know how to pray. They went to their homes heavy-hearted. The one who knew how to pray, prayed and courage and help came to him. He went through the time without loss of honor and without serious losses of other kinds. The man who did not know how to pray went into his bathroom and shot himself. His wife and children gathered up the poor body and buried it, but did not bury the memory—could never bury the memory. It pays to pray. The silver and the gold are God's, "and the cattle upon a thousand hills" (Ps. 50:10). "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein" (Ps. 24:1). Your Heavenly Father knoweth what things you have need of; your Heavenly Father knoweth that you have need of these things. "Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full."

Trouble Through Men

Sometimes when we are not troubled because of sickness, or because of temptation, or because of financial limitations, we are troubled by human beings. Children do not do right. Parents do

not do right. Husbands grieve wives, wives grieve husbands; neighbors are not kind to neighbors. At times these difficulties with humans are trifling. They are what we call vexations. At other times they rise to fearful heights and fairly swamp the soul, but whether they be more serious or less serious, the remedy is the same; in fact, if they are dealt with promptly at the beginning, they are not so likely to become so serious as when they are neglected. "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will" (Prov. 21:1).

I have over and over again, in my home life, in my school life, in my church life, in my community life, experienced the truth that God is able to save us from these difficulties with humans, be the same less or more. I am not saying that all people are equally agreeable. Of course, everyone knows that it would not be true. There seems to have been a special tie between our Lord, Peter, James and John—not because they were better than other disciples, but because they were appointed to a special service, or because there were natural qualities which made them more sympathetic and helpful than others could be, but it is possible to live in a measure of peace and harmony with most individuals. We do not have to quarrel and we are not required ordinarily to suffer greatly in our relations with our fellow beings. If we are humble, if pride and self-will can be definitely nailed to the cross of Jesus Christ, there will not be many times in our lives when we cannot be fairly comfortable with the people about us.

But if we murmur and complain when we ought to pray, difficulties will continue, difficulties will increase, difficulties which in the beginning are trials light as air, may grow into such dimensions that they will destroy the peace of churches, communities, that they will alienate hearts forever. There is a blessing pronounced upon peacemakers and we all should aspire to this blessing. If we cannot ourselves attain to the blessing of the peacemaker, we ought at least to attain to the blessing of the peacekeeper. If we cannot harmonize and unite those who are at enmity, we should be able to avoid worrying and distressing other folk. It is very sad to see good people who are continually at variance with their fellows. If there is

(Continued on page 8)

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The Way to Never-Failing Strength

(Continued from page 1)

sources, who can give power to the faint, and 'to him that hath no might he increaseth strength.' Notice the kind of God we have!

1. He Is the Undiscouraged God!

Here is the normal strength of God. He "fainteth not," says the Scripture! God knew all about the fall of man, and man's wickedness before the world began, and planned to save those who would believe. Christ is "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Rev. 13:8). His purpose when the world began, to save souls, is God's purpose still. He never gives up His plan. God knew ahead of time who would trust Him, and "whom he did foreknow, he also

did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren," says Romans 8:29. And now see the eternal patience in working out His Divine purposes! The next verse says, "Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified" (Rom. 8:30). That makes simple the dark doctrine of predestination.

First, God knows who will trust Christ.

Second, God determines to save them.

Third, He calls, seeks them.

Fourth, He gets them saved

when they trust Him.

Fifth, these converts He carries home to Heaven, glorified.

Thus God never fails of His purposes, never gets discouraged with the Christian till He gets him to Heaven, made into the image of His Son!

God never gets discouraged with the nation Israel. He loved them, called them out of Egypt, as He had promised Abraham hundreds of years before. He chastised them, led them into the land after forty years of wandering. Later He sent them into captivity for their sins. After seventy years, He returned a remnant to Judea. Then Jews rejected their Messiah and terrible punishment came. Titus took the city and sacked it, a million or more Jews were slain; and those left were scattered to all nations, as they are this day. Most of them are still in unbelief, rejecting their Saviour. But God is not discouraged. He has never changed His mind nor His plans about Israel. "The gifts and calling of God are without repentance" (Rom. 11:29)—and, "God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew" (Rom. 11:2). Thus we are told that eventually "all Israel shall be saved," that is, the whole nation that shall be left. Wicked Pharaoh would have killed all the boy babies among the Jews. Wicked Haman would have blotted out the race. Hitler, demon-possessed, would have done the same, and has probably killed his millions. But the patient, undiscouraged God knows what He will do!

Jesus Christ was never discouraged. He is not discouraged now. He knows that He will have the victory. "Jesus shall reign where'er the sun doth his successive journeys run!" His kingdom will come, His will be done on earth as it is done by the angels in Heaven! For Isaiah 42:4, speaking of the coming Saviour says, "He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth:

and the isles shall wait for his law." Those in touch with Jesus need never be discouraged. He knows what is coming, He will have His way.

2. God Is Never Tired!

"My Father worketh hitherto, and I work," said Jesus in John 5:17. And the text in Isaiah 40:28 says that our Heavenly Father "fainteth not, neither is weary." God never gets tired of running the universe. He never gets tired of hearing and answering prayer. He never gets tired of calling and saving sinners. This almighty strength of our everlasting God should lead us to wait on Him when we are tired.

"Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall," we are told. Even the strongest, the youngest among men get tired, wear out. Human bodies and human minds can only do so much. Then, unless we know a supernatural source of strength, there comes defeat and failure. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph. 6:12). But we can have the strength of an always fresh, untired God! Praise God! We can say with Paul, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Phil. 4:13).

3. Our God Is Never at His Wit's End!

"There is no searching of his understanding." He always knows the way out. I do not always know the way out, but God does. It often seems I am up against a stone wall that I cannot go through and cannot go over or around. But He makes a way in the wilderness. He has the key to hearts we could never touch. He has the answer we could never find alone. Oh, then we must learn to get the infinite, unfathomed, unperceived resources of our God, "the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth!"

Waiting on God Gets Daily Renewal of Patience, Strength and Resources

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength," says Isaiah 40:31.

Your discouragement is really just a lack of God's nearness and assurance. Waiting on God will cure it! I rather think that discouragement is a sin, the sin of the lack of faith. But I know that discouragement is the fruit of sin. It comes of the sin of not waiting on God! One reason Jesus was never discouraged was that He was always waiting on the Father!

When the wives, children and goods of David and his men were stolen; David's town Ziklag, was burned down by the Amalekites, David was greatly distressed with grief and discouragement, with his men ready to stone him, "But David encouraged himself in the Lord his God" (I Sam. 30:6). Then, in that strength, the Amalekites were overcome; and all restored. In the power of the Lord our God, we too can lose all our discouragements!

We are tired often and easily. But too often we are tired because we carry the burden instead of laying it on the Lord. Too often we are tired because we are working for God instead of letting Him work through us. We often burn the wick when we might burn oil; the wick of human endeavor instead of the oil of Holy Spirit power. Some preachers give two thirty-minute sermonettes on Sunday, and a twenty-minute talk at prayer meeting in midweek, and have to have a month's vacation each year, and preaching is an awful burden year in, year out! Oh, that they could learn the ease of preaching in the Spirit, several times a day, as John Wesley did all his life, as Finney, Moody, Torrey, and other Spirit-filled preachers did! Serving God ought to be a delight. Jesus said, "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matt. 11:30). But that is only true when it is truly HIS yoke, HIS burden, carried WITH Him, carried mostly BY Him! Well, what we need is to wait upon Him and renew our strength.

"What shall I say to that sinner I want to win?" "How can I get my children saved?" "Shall I go to this place or to the other?"

We are so often at the end of our wits! We so often decide wrong. But we need not be without the wisdom we need. "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him" (Jas. 1:5). Waiting on God will get wisdom, will get clear leading.

As assistant pastor of the First Baptist Church of Plainview, Texas, I was to preach on a Sunday night in the absence of the pastor, and I was greatly burdened about facing that crowd of six hundred people. A saintly old minister, Rev. G. I. Brittain, and I were walking together, and I hoped he would suggest a sermon theme. I said, hinting, "I do not know what to preach Sunday night." He answered at once, "And don't you know where to go to find out?"

God rebuked me with the dear brother's words. Quickly I answered, "Yes, I DO know where to go to find out what to preach, and I am going there!" I went to God in earnest prayer, and God gave me the sermon I was to preach, through the clear leading of the Holy Spirit and through God's Word. We need never be distraught, at the end of our resources. Wait upon the Lord!

Faith for Flying, Resources for Running, Patience for Plodding!

1. A man cannot fly. He has no wings. But "they that wait upon the Lord shall mount up with wings as eagles." We are not only men, earth-bound. We are also creatures of Heaven, children of God. And if Christians wait upon the Lord He will give vision and faith for the miracle of flight. We want another Moody; well, Moody was a miracle. There is no human way to account for his marvelous ministry. But those who wait on the Lord will have miracles, will be miracles. He is able. But Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Phil. 4:13). His power is ours if we wait for it! The marvels of soul winning, the miracles of accomplishment are for those who stay in the secret place to have God's power. Pentecost follows. "These all continued steadfastly in prayer and supplication" (Acts 1:14).

Power belongs to God; no one ever has it who does not wait upon the Lord.

2. "They shall run, and not be weary." Some men work to the limit of their strength regularly. Paul was, he said, "in labors more abundant" than other apostles. Why could he work so hard, run continually, and not be weary? He waited upon God! Constant trusting, resting, pleading, claiming prayer can sustain the strength continually.

3. "They shall walk, and not faint." This is plodding, unspectacular work. How I thank God for the years I preached in country schoolhouses, in jails, on street corners! How I thank Him for the thousands He has helped me to win, one by one! That is walking, though we would rather run or fly! How I thank God for the grace to toil at writing, editing long hours each week between revival services. A written ministry is not principally dependent upon talent. Usually it waits for grace to plod, to walk. "Genius is one per cent inspiration and ninety-nine per cent perspiration," someone has said. Hard work behind the scenes, writing, correcting, looking up Scriptures, doing over, praying over it, crying over it, usually feeling you can never do your best because of the pressure—oh! what grace that takes! But waiting on God gives grace to plod, grace to walk and not faint. If this poor preacher has been a little like Paul, "more abundant in labors," it is from waiting on God!

Oh, Christian, wait upon the Lord and renew your strength! Wait, I say, upon the Lord!

—THE END—

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A Loving God Answers Prayer

(Continued from page 7)

prayer such as there ought to be, these lives will be changed.

He Did Not Pray Enough

I knew a man who was in many respects one of the best men I ever knew—pure in his life, genial in his relations with those who were next to him, absolutely honest in his purposes and intentions—but everlastingly in quarrel and litigation with somebody. I never knew a more tireless laborer in my life. He nearly killed himself with his work, but he died after having lost two fortunes, being in comparative poverty when it was entirely within his power to have fallen asleep in Jesus, universally regretted, and with all the comforts of life about him. I think of him often when this subject comes up. I do not think he prayed enough. I know he did not pray enough with the people of God. He worked so diligently with his

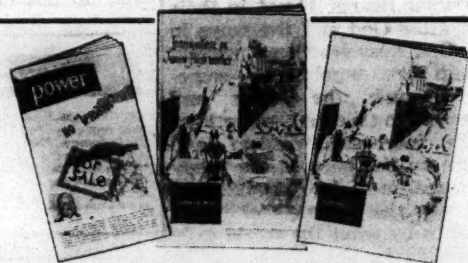
hands that it was hard for him to go to prayer meetings at all. Ordinarily he was not in the weekly prayer meeting and this was one of the things that marred his peace and crippled his influence for good.

Let me close, as I began, by saying that God answers prayer because He loves His children. He would answer more prayer if there was more prayer for Him to answer. He does not wish one person who reads this chapter to be long troubled in body or spirit or in social relations. A rest remains for the people of God. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee" (Isa. 26:3). The trusting spirit prays to learn and learns to pray and it also receives things from God, so, brethren, let us be careful about prayer.

(From the book, GETTING THINGS FROM GOD, price, \$2.50, 270 pages, Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.)



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Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 2)

home and at work. Thank God for the blessed conferences at Aniston and Macon, for the thousands of people who seemed to be blessed, and the hundreds of preachers attending.

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Will We Know Our Loved Ones...?

(Continued from page 1)

and actual? Can we scientifically locate it?

I shall address our attention in the second place to "RECOGNITION IN HEAVEN." Will we know our loved ones? Will we have bodies? Will we be disembodied

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spirits moving about in a dream world? Will we have physical limits? Will we have recognizable features? How old will we be?

I will address your hearts in the third place on the vital subject of "RESERVATION FOR HEAVEN." What does God propose we must do in preparation for life beyond death? Is there a guarantee of such life? On what basis does God make His demands? Will every good person be in Heaven? Is decency the standard for Heaven? What seems to be the single doorway for such a reservation, and is it assured?

The Revelation of Heaven

With thousands of people in this audience and additional tens of thousands who shall read this recorded sermon in the newspapers and periodicals, I am obliged to give solid evidence concerning a real promise of a real place made by a real person. I do not bring you the vagaries of some wandering minstrel. I dare not present a theoretic mental illusion. There is no place for fiction when a man deals with the irreparable and irrevocable moment of decision that affects your life after death.

Here are the facts. I need not vindicate the source book, for the Bible is still the world's best seller and actually the reservoir of all truth. Christ speaks, "I go to prepare a PLACE for you, that where I am THERE ye shall be also" (John 14:3).

The Bible describes clearly in the recordings of John the Revelator these following words:

"And he carried me away in
(Continued on page 10)

everybody who is interested can pray. Surely you who love the Lord, who believe in soul winning, who believe in the old-time religion ought to do that. Will you earnestly put this poor burdened editor in your prayers that God will give power and wisdom and a holy anointing every day for this giant task?

News Flashes from Christian Schools

(Continued from page 4)

not had all the advantages we had. (I use the word 'Advantages' advisedly.) Many lads and lassies have not grown up on the farm or in a small town as we did, and therefore have missed the customary chores of childhood. They have not known the soul-testing, character-building days of depression; but they too, can learn the value and dignity of hard work. For that reason I want to help them with these Christian Character awards."

Christian Writers Institute

In June we ran an article mentioning the various correspondence schools maintained by Christian colleges, seminaries and Bible institutes. There was a good response from our people and we are glad to have been able to have been of some service about this. However, we made at least one omission when listing the correspondence schools. For some years now the Scripture Press Foundation in Chicago has been maintaining a Christian Writers Institute. This is a home-study course in learning to write for publication. Mr. Robert Walker and those who work with him have felt a burden to get more Christians interested in writing for publication. He and his workers have felt a burden for encouraging Christians to do a better job of editing their bulletins, writing articles of interest for secular papers and then writing for the Christian periodicals which carry items of interest to the general Christian public. It is only fair to admit that there has been a great dearth of good writers in Christian circles. The Christian Writers Institute is trying to teach the fundamentals of good writing to help fill this need.

Three courses are available. The first course is Beginning Christian Writer. The advanced courses are Christian Magazine Writing and Christian Fiction Writing. If you would like more complete in-

formation on these courses, you may write Miss Janice Gosnell at the Christian Writers Institute, 434 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago 5, Illinois. She will be glad to send you a folder giving more description of the courses offered.

New Developments at Fuller Theological Seminary

Probably the most important news coming from Fuller Theological Seminary recently is that Dr. Edward John Carnell has been elected as president of the school to replace Dr. Harold John Ockenga of Boston. Dr. Ockenga has served as president since the formation of the school but has also maintained his pastorate of the famed Park Street Church in Boston. Dr. Ockenga will continue on the board of directors of the school.

Public announcement was made in September of the plans for a new library building on the Seminary campus. No date has been set for the beginning of construction on the library building but the proposed building is to accommodate a maximum of 150,000 volumes, with reading room facilities for 100 men and complete audio-visual equipment. Dr. Charles E. Fuller, founder of the school, made the announcement at Fuller Theological Seminary's eighth annual fall convocation on September 23.



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News Notes

Musical Chair

A grant of \$25,000, allocated to Wheaton College, will go towards establishment of a memorial chair in church music. It was given by the Marguerite T. Doane Charitable Foundation of South Orange, N. J. Dr. William Doane, in whose honor the chair is being set up, was the father of Mrs. Marguerite Doane and the composer of numerous hymns including "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" and "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior."

Bob Jones University Begins 28th Year

Last year the Rodeheaver Auditorium at Bob Jones University was made much more comfortable by the wonderful air conditioning unit; this year it was revolutionized by remarkable stage equipment.

This special equipment, secured from the Center Theatre, New York City, includes a twenty-seven foot revolving stage with three elevator lifts and an additional contour curtain. It is valued at more than \$100,000, but it was secured for the University for the cost of dismantling and shipping.

The entire stage floor was reconstructed to accommodate this equipment. Each of the three sections is operated by a fifty horsepower motor and may be raised or lowered a maximum of twelve feet above or below stage level. The forestage, which formerly had to be removed, may now be lowered twelve feet. The backstage section's lifting range is twenty-four feet. Each section is supported by six enormous screws (4½ inches in diameter) which vary in length from fourteen to thirty feet. It is reported that there is only one machine shop in America with a lathe pad large enough to turn out these screws.

In addition to elevation, the stage makes a complete revolution in forty-seconds, making possible an entire scene change in these few seconds.

The Center Theatre contour, which measured 270 feet at the base by 75 feet in height, was altered to fit the B. J. U. stage. This beautiful addition makes B. J. U. the only school boasting two contours.

The lift mechanism makes B. J. U. stage the largest screw lift revolving stage in America. Only the Chicago Civic Opera House and the Radio City Music Hall have comparable stages. Their equipment is hydraulic.

The full value of this equipment will be realized in the presentation of the Artist Series productions for the coming year.

The twenty-eighth session of Bob Jones University was formally opened with evening services on September 8, in Rodeheaver Auditorium.

Dr. Jones, Jr., welcomed old students and new students stating "This is the day of conformity, not the day of strong conviction. Bob Jones University is an individualistic institution, more interested in truth than popularity, more concerned with doing God's will than it is in conforming to the academic and social conventions of a wicked and sinful day."

"Bob Jones University does not train young people to be followers of the popular trend—socially, ecclesiastically or any other way. Bob Jones University trains men and women to be followers of Christ, which sometimes means

(Continued on page 11)

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Will We Know Our Loved Ones...?

(Continued from page 9)

the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal: And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth; and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphires; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl; and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass. And I saw no temple therein; for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it; for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day; for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life."—Rev. 21:10-27.

Some years ago a news cartoonist in his days of syndicated newspaper articles drew a magnificent pyramidal picture of Heaven. With this artist's conception of Heaven taken from the 21st chapter of The Revelation, plus an extensive description of our condition after death, he gave each man the hope that we should have approximately eight cubic feet of space in which to live in this city. This city, which measures six thousand miles around, would dwarf every known city in the world today and yet would provide for each of us only the portion of space allotted by our deep freezes in this modern age.

Let me give pause to your minds in relation to the actual facts of this chapter of the Bible, particularly verse 10, "And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me THE GREAT CITY, THE HOLY JERUSALEM, DESCENDING OUT OF HEAVEN FROM GOD." I believe that every scrupulous Bible student will admit that this holy Jerusalem, as magnificent as it shall be, and as real as I do believe it is, shall be only a sample city prepared for those who love Him.

Because the number "twelve" is predominant in all of its building, and the names of the children of Israel and the apostles are written into its foundations, I believe it gives evidence that this shall be God's pendant, His Jewel city prepared for His beloved people, Israel, who have been promised throughout Scripture, material blessing.

They shall be converted "in a day" when they turn their face

to the Messiah and in eternity God shall have given them this city whose doors shall be opened to "all nations" and we shall actually walk on the streets of gold.

However, in this scientific age of the atom, we would be appalled to think that all eternity would be encompassed by the limits of one city six thousand miles around, when God has already provided literal galaxies of glory in the astronomical skies for our abundance in these brief "three score years and ten" of sin and trouble and limitation. Certainly, He shall have even greater abundance in the creative handiwork for all eternity and the promise of God is limitless for those who believe on Jesus Christ.

Let me insert just a brief humorous note. I believe God, if necessary, could give every individual believer a planet of his own at the creative word of His mouth, and He may have to do so unless we learn to get along a good deal better with each other before eternity! (Extended laughter from audience.)

The fact of the extent of Heaven and the real existence of God's promised Heaven may be somewhat surprising to you unless you have studied the actual promise of the Bible in chapter after chapter. In the Atom Age the unchanging Bible yet supersedes in its revelation all of man's understanding.

Although scientific data has changed even throughout our brief span of life, the Bible facts have never had to be changed, and many references pointing even to the atom itself are rather amazing in the light of this past decade of developments. Should we believe less than the overwhelming evidence for a real life after death in a real place promised by a real Saviour who is alive at the right hand of God at this very minute.

A group of high school students put the question to me recently as to just exactly where Heaven is. Of course, I immediately answered that Revelation 4:1 talks about coming "up" into Heaven, and Acts 1:9, 10, and 11 tells us about how Christ was taken "up" into Heaven, so that Heaven must be in an upward direction and not in the interior or on the surface of the earth. This, of course, caused the youngsters quite some consternation. They explained to me that we are spinning around on a little globe which is set in its own solar system and consequently the direction up was changing momentarily, not only for us, but for those on the opposite side of the planet. These youngsters, in typical teenage style, (and I love them for their inquisitiveness) demanded some kind of direction for Heaven.

The Bible easily teaches an
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Will We Know Our Loved Ones...?

(Continued from page 10)

answer regarding direction and location. We read the following facts from Isaiah's magnificent description (Isaiah 14:12-14):
"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit

also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High."

The phrase, "I will ascend into heaven," gives us the direction in part. The phrase, "in the sides of the north," gives us the specific direction. The phrases, "I will ascend above the heights of the clouds," and "I will exalt my throne above the stars of God," indicate that Heaven will be beyond the atmospheric sky and the astronomical areas of planets and stars.

Those college people who have studied the heavens tell us that the planet Mercury is thirty-six million miles beyond the sun; Venus sixty-two million; Mars, one hundred and forty-one million; Jupiter, four hundred and eighty-three million; Saturn, eight hundred and eighty-six million; Uranus, almost two billion miles beyond the sun; Neptune, almost three billion miles beyond the sun; and the new planet Pluto, 4,620,240,000 miles beyond the sun. With the light of some of the stars coming to us at the rate of one million miles a minute for two hundred and twenty thousand light years—and Heaven is beyond that!

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (there is no six thousand years ago date on God's creation—that appears only in the margin of your Bible and is man-made—but God's Word says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth"; consequently these stars and planets made by the hand of God are not age-dated by the small thoughts of men.) If God could give us these amazing whirling worlds, now examined so scrupulously by scientists, how much more God has prepared for the eternity of those who love Him—amazing preparation, marvellous provision that would astound the greatest minds of the ages.

I sat in a library some years ago examining carefully a book on the subject of astronomy. In this book by a learned professor I read this kind of a statement, "We have trained our newest telescopes on the northern areas of the heavens and have discovered a 'veritable tunnel through the stars,' beyond which there seems to be another 'milky way' which I would like to term 'the heaven of heavens.'" With great difficulty I suppressed the hallelujahs of my heart when I read a modern scientific volume corroborating the statements of Isaiah 14, Job 26:7 which says, "He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing," and Ezekiel 1:4 and 28.

We have determined not only that Heaven is in an upward direction, but its specific direction is North and the Bible literally refers to it as "The heaven of heavens." A amazing accuracy! Wonderful promise!

You are going to be astonished at the scientific evidence of your blessed Bible, when you get on the other side. With a tunnel in the sky for a doorway, God shall march His armies into the presence of His own Son to present us with the glorious galaxies of the eternal preparation through the almighty grace of our blessed Saviour.

As the Bible says, "Now we see through a glass darkly, but then we shall see face to face, now we know in part [in fractions] then we shall know even as we are known."

Regarding the distances involved, at this present moment scientific writers are playing with the possibility of reaching some of these planets, first the moon near us and then possibly other heavenly bodies. Can a world that accepts the promise of strange aircraft that would carry us to "inter-stellar space" reject simple factual evidence promised by the Word of God concerning the creative power of God and relating to an actual, real place of promise for eternity. The same God who made the promise can prepare the transportation as described in I Corinthians 15:51-53: "Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of

an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." "For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not precede them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (I Thess. 4:15-17).

We have evidence here that we be transported, with the rapidity of thought, into His Presence, arriving there as the Scripture says "in the twinkling of an eye." In the glint of an eye, we will be caught up and whisked through the tunnel in the stars into the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ to actually view the revealed splendour of the "Heaven of Heavens." You say, "Will it be real?" Ah, yes, we'll walk on those streets of gold. We will pass those pearly portals. We will live in the presence of God with all eternity devoted to the revelation of the astonishing plan of the Almighty God. Ephesians explains to us that individual Christians shall be examined to prove to all who see, the almighty grace of God transforming the clay of the human heart into the shining splendour of a saved sinner standing in the "heavenly hall of fame."

Time will not permit to speak of the choirs of Heaven, the music of those who sing the "blood washed song," the service of Heaven, the people of Heaven and the program of Heaven.

Recognition in Heaven

I hasten to the second problem, "WILL WE KNOW OUR LOVED ONES IN HEAVEN?" This question involves several other questions concerning the actual existence of physical bodies, recognition of individuals, and the promise of Christ in relation to our future state after death.

In this skeptical, practical, calculating age when people must have facts, we bring to you actual evidence from the Bible concerning recognition in the life beyond death.

As a background, may I suggest that you read the details surrounding the life of Jesus Christ after He was physically risen from the dead. He invited them to touch His corporeal body. He urged Thomas to put his finger against the scar of His hands and the wound of His side. He ate fish beside the Sea of Galilee after resurrection. With the same body which later ascended to Heaven, He moved into their midst through the walls of the room—an amazing feat! This can only be understood by a scientific age which has analyzed the actual structure of material substance made out of the "whirling little solar systems" called "atoms."

Christ had a body that He brought forth from the grave. He described it "flesh and bones as ye see me have" which would indicate that our resurrection bodies may be without blood. Sin is in the blood, limitation of life, many diseases are in the blood. We shall have resurrection bodies of flesh and bone according to the promise of Christ, Christ the firstfruit and then we the harvest of resurrection is the Bible promise. We shall have resurrection bodies, real bodies, touchable bodies, recognizable bodies.

In the past twenty years of conferences, conventions and crusades, I have often been quizzed about the age of the resurrection body with such strange questions as: "Will I be crippled when I get to Heaven?" or, "Will I be wrinkled in the Glory-land?" or, "Will I have these scars and marks on the other side of death and resurrection?" The Bible gives evidence that our bodies shall be perfect, and we, as His church, shall be presented to Christ "without spot or blemish or wrinkle" which has spiritual implications as well as physical.

Some have suggested that babies who die will be "babies" in

News Notes

(Continued from page 10)

they will have to go contrary to the popular trend. We are more concerned that our students go out to win souls than we are that they win fame and applause."

Dr. Jones, Sr., in his message said, "Modernism subordinated the Bible to the human intellect. Orthodoxy subordinated the human intellect to the Bible. The preeminent place in any institution if it is to be Christian must be given to the Lord Jesus Christ. If Jesus Christ has His proper place, the academic standards and business efficiency of an institute will have their proper place. No educational institution can hope to produce many great scholars for there never have been many great scholars, but the danger that threatens education today is the tendency to send men and women out into the world who are not scholars but who worship scholarship, and there is no more dangerous false god than the intellectual god."

Dr. Jones, Jr., also conducted evangelistic services on Thursday and Friday evenings. Registration of students from practically every state in the union and from many foreign countries was held on Thursday and Friday.

Radio station WMUU, the radio voice of Bob Jones University, celebrated its fifth birthday on September 15. For five years it has been endeavoring to give the Greenville area the best in music, news, and religious programs.

With the beginning of the sixth year of broadcasting, the entire station has been completely redecorated along with two major changes. The transmitter can now be operated directly from the station. The major change was the rewiring of the station and the addition of another control room.

The primary purpose is to make master tapes of network quality to send to approximately fifty stations in the United States and abroad. The new equipment makes WMUU one of the best equipped radio stations in the South.

Grace Bible Institute Enrolls 304

The Fall semester of Grace Bible Institute was started with an enrollment of 304 in the day school and 19 in the evening school. This marks a 5 per cent increase in the day school enrollment to that of a year ago. The student body represents 18 denominations; 3 foreign countries, namely: East Africa, Germany and Japan; 26 states and Canada.

Students at Grace Bible Institute are actively engaged in Christian service during their training days at school.

The 12th Annual Bible Conference will convene at Grace Bible Institute on November 1-5, with Grace Fellowship Day being observed on Tuesday, November 2.

Edward John Carnell has been elected president of Fuller Theological Seminary. He succeeds Dr. Harold John Ockenga, pastor of Park Street Church, Boston, Mass., who has been president-in-absentia. Dr. Carnell graduated *cum laude* from Wheaton College in 1941, with a philosophy major, he attended Westminster Theological Seminary and in 1944 received the degrees bachelor of theology and master of theology simultaneously. An apologetics major, he won the William Branton Green prize in Apologetics in the course of his study for the thesis, "The Influence of the Philosophy of Immanuel Kant on the Theology of Frederick Schleiermacher." He was ordained in the summer of 1944 a minister in the Baptist denomination. From Harvard Divinity School he received the degrees of master of sacred theology and doctor of theology, and in 1949 the doctor of philosophy degree.

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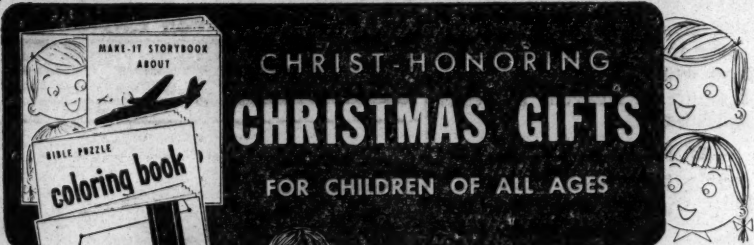
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Will We Know Our Loved Ones...?

(Continued from page 11)

Heaven and aged people shall be "aged." And others have sponsored the solution that all of us shall be "thirty-three years of age as Jesus was" in the resurrection year. I think we can surely follow this problem through more carefully to find that when God created man and then marked upon man time periods, that those periods of time should only exist until He had consummated His plan, at which time He continues in timeless eternity without marking men by years. So I believe that in the eternity of tomorrow there will be no age marks whatsoever, but we shall be (as we are born at the foot of the cross) actually eternal beings.

Now what about recognition in the life after death. John 14:1-3 indicates that we will recognize Christ. Genesis 25:8 tells us Abraham knew his people after death. Matthew 8:11 proves that we will know the patriarchs. Surely if I shall know Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, I shall know Mary, Patrick, and Susan.

Matthew 17:3 and 4 tells us Peter, James and John knew Moses and Elijah in the transfiguration. Luke 10:20 names men after death and implies individuality. Actually "you" will always be "you." Even though the bodies should be perfect and without marks or imperfections, yet the personality and identity shall always be the same.

A climax proof is I Thessalonians 4:13-18, the last verse saying, "Wherefore comfort one another with these words." To me it would be no comfort at meeting our loved ones and "being caught up together with them," if we did not know them. God assures recognition in Glory.

The Old Testament asks the question, "If a man die, shall he live again?" The New Testament answers this with the glorious verses of I Corinthians 15. Open your Bible and carefully read this amazing and logical conclusion concerning a bodily resurrection and life after death. Every man who ever dies shall live again, some under judgment and eternal condemnation according to the Scripture, others into the glory of a resurrection in the presence of Christ. We will not be disembodied "spooks" floating in the ether. We shall have bodies. We shall have resurrection bodies. The dead in Christ shall rise, given their bodies. Jesus Christ, when He rose again, had a flesh and bone body. He walked with them,

talked with them, touched them, and taught them the facts, concerning life after death.

We shall have the timelessness of eternity's day, and the limitlessness of eternal existence in Christ.

A mother whose soldier son had died on the field of battle walked quietly to the altar of a church to ask me one day, "If I go to Heaven and my son is not there, could it possibly be Heaven for me?" This reasonable question constitutes the driving urgency of evangelism. It must not be avoided. We are obliged to see that all men meet and know and trust Christ.

However, I am positive that the Bible, which says, "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes," must have a solution for the brokenhearted mother with an unsaved son. Could it be possibly true that the "unsaved" in Heaven shall be as the "unborn" on earth? I do not know. This I do know, that more often than people imagine, a splendid young American lying face down on a dirty little peninsula like Korea with an empty rifle in one hand, a piece of mud and snow in the other hand, while the hot steel in his midsection takes his life, is praying the urgent cry of the sinner believing in Mother's God, and in that instant, just as surely as God saved the thief on the cross, He takes that redeemed soul in, by sheer faith in Christ through grace. Let that word comfort the human heart.

A little mother came to me one night in Tomah, Wisconsin and wept out a story about how twelve years before she had had twin babies born to her. Because of the complicated birth and severe illness of the mother, she was unable to call her minister to have the children baptized before they both died. That minister (without any Bible foundation) told the brokenhearted mother that she should never expect to see those twins in Heaven because she had failed to call him to baptize them in time. I hastened to explain to her that the hand of a priest or preacher and the water of an ordinance had never given eternal life to any child or adult, but only "by grace through faith" in Jesus Christ can the moment of everlasting hope be born in a human heart. I also explained that until those babes would have come to the "age of accountability" and had rejected Christ's way, they were in the hands of God. I explained also how she, if she would trust Christ as her Saviour, would meet them on the other side. After lengthy consultation and earnest prayer, she saw the mighty love of God and (the following night) explained that for the first time in twelve years she had slept as a peaceful child in the faith of our fathers. God have mercy on unenlightened ministers who so carelessly handle the hearts of people and so carelessly teach the Word of the living God. The Bible is not a curse, but a blessing, to those who want God's way.

Salvation cannot be purchased by ritual or "religious rigamarole." The rich cannot buy it. Education, culture and decency will not bring it. Only by faith do we have that salvation, which I would like to term

Your Reservation for Heaven

Now, what are the facts concerning the reservation for Heaven? Read with me the following sentence—this magnificent sentence from the Bible, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, RESERVED IN HEAVEN for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" (I Pet. 1:3-5).

"Reserved in heaven for you" is a phrase which so many people have overlooked. Funerals make us touch eternity with our minds. Tragedy makes us reach out for something beyond death with our imagination. Conscience concerning sin drives us to a longing for

life after death. But only intelligent understanding of God's salvation plan will give us a factual, evidential reality concerning hope after death.

This is one of the most extensive and beautiful sentences in the entire Bible. What a sentence—what a magnificent documentary of the doctrines of our hope! I have a place reserved in Heaven. I have a reservation on the other side. You say "How can that be?" At the foot of the cross I found faith. Question: "Did you deserve it?" No, never. God knows how I've sinned. Question: "How do you know it will really work?" Because Jesus died and lived, so even though I die, I shall live again by faith in a risen Saviour.

Mohammed is dead. Buddha is dead. Lenin and Stalin are dead. Leaders of religions, past, present, and future, have and shall live and die, but only One ever lived, died, and lived again, eternally. His name is Christ.

Christ "clothed Himself" in the Virgin Mary, and came forth miraculously, not to begin His existence, but to begin only His earthly ministry. For the Bible teaches, "In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men" (John 1:1-4).

Our guaranteed reservation in life after death must be by the word of, in the name of, by the grace of an eternal Person who lived, died and lived again in resurrection promise.

Our life after death is wrapped up in Jesus Christ.

Some years ago my brother and I contracted diphtheria. He was seven and I was nine. The ambulance arrived. We were wrapped in white sheets and taken to the contagious ward of the Minneapolis General Hospital. I can yet see my mother's face against the glass of the ward looking at the two older boys during those days and nights of suffering, more for her than for us because she couldn't reach in and touch and comfort her small boys.

Brother Robert wept day and night, day after day, in his suffering. Although the nurses tried to help him, it was almost impossible to give him relief in his complicated condition.

The nurses tried to comfort me as I explained that it was "my brother" who kept crying. After two weeks they explained how they had moved him to a sunny room on the other side of the hospital.

A week later Mother came to take me home. As we sat on the streetcar moving toward our residence in south Minneapolis, I asked Mother, "Is Robert home yet?" Mother answered quickly, "Yes, Robert's already home. He's been home a week now."

As we walked up our street, through the front yard, past the lilac bushes, poplar and maple trees, across the wide veranda into the door of our home, there stood little Donald, five years old. I pushed him aside, and rushing past him, shouted throughout the house, "Robert, hey, Robert!" The house was silent save for the gurgling reception given by the small five-year-old.

I persisted in calling for Robert and was very much "put out" that he wasn't there to welcome me after we had been in the hospital together. Mother drew me aside, and as she pulled me down on her lap in the old squeaking rocking chair at the corner of the big dining room, she tried to explain that Robert wasn't "home" to this home, but to his heavenly home.

I said, "You mean he's dead!" Mother carefully explained that to the Christians death is only the passing through the portals and the temporary loss of those we love until we meet them in resurrection time face to face to be with them for all eternity. She explained to me how Robert had knelt at the altar of the church to accept Jesus Christ that year, and she clung tenaciously and warm-heartedly to the description of his evident and real conversion by faith in Christ.

All I could shout was, "But he's dead, isn't he?"

At the screen door at the front

of the house stood a crowd of boys shouting for me to come out and play ball—welcoming me back to the neighborhood again.

I marched from the dining room, across the living room, through the reception hall, threw the door open and said, "Kids, get out of here! Beat it! Don't come back again! Don't you know my brother's dead? I'll never play ball again! He's dead, I tell you! Get out of here! Beat it! He's dead!"

They backed away, stumbling through the lilac bushes and out to the street wondering what had happened to me. I walked back into the house (behind me slammed the screen door) into the loneliest, emptiest house I had ever known. This was my first contact intimately with death, and my nine-year-old heart seemed almost broken.

Since those days there has come, through the teaching of that godly mother, the quiet assurance that what she said in those days and "lived out" in the subsequent years is actually the truth, a fact—not a dream.

"If in this life only we have hope, we are of all men most miserable (I Cor. 15:19). Christ is alive. We shall live again. This blessed hope is the sustenance of every human heart that stands beside the little white crosses; the brown mounds of earth; the small chapel coffin... in a day when every person alive shall know the hungry, lonely heart that stands alone, save for the assurance in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

"Because he lives, we shall live also!"

Shall we pray:

Almighty God, I bow to pray that every listener in this vast audience and each one who reads the record of this factual, provable Heaven shall place faith in the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ and pray the prayer of the penitent, "Lord be merciful to me, a sinner, and save me for Jesus Christ." For we know, Almighty God, that "He that believeth is not condemned, but he that believeth not is already condemned, because he hath not believed on the only begotten Son of God."

PRAYER: Almighty God, in the name of Jesus Christ, I plead Thy mercy, Thy forgiveness, Thy cleansing, Thy salvation and assurance for every wounded human heart who will say an eternal "Yes" to Jesus Christ. This is our prayer as these people come to the altar to make the one eternal decision which guarantees life beyond death in Heaven. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Montrose, California, U. S. A.

My Decision for Christ

You have read the sermon on "Will We Know Our Loved Ones in Heaven?" by Dr. Rosell, the editor's dear friend and member of our Cooperating Board. What a wonderful place Heaven is, and how wonderful that it is revealed in the Bible that we will know each other there and that one may make reservation today for Heaven, may know beyond doubt that he has a home in that beautiful and eternal place!

If you are a poor, lost sinner, the editor begs you in Jesus' name to turn to Christ today. The moment you repent of your sin and turn to Christ with all your heart, depending upon Him for salvation, that moment your sins will be blotted out and you will have made reservation for Heaven! Jesus promises, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). If you will trust Jesus Christ to forgive you, rely upon Him as your own personal Saviour, depend upon Him, you will immediately have everlasting life and you will not perish and be lost forever. Will you do it today? If so, please say a wholehearted yes to Jesus Christ in your heart, then sign the decision form below then copy it in a letter and let me know. How glad I will be! I will tell Brother Rosell, and will write you a personal letter of instruction and encouragement. I beg you, decide, sign, copy or mail to me today.

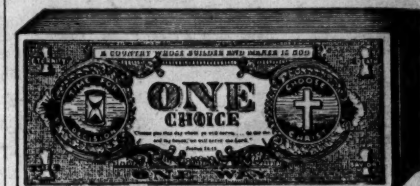
Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor
THE SWORD OF THE LORD
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I have read Evangelist Merv Rosell's sermon, "Will We Know Our Loved Ones in Heaven?" I realize that I am a poor, lost sinner who needs forgiveness and salvation. I want to go to Heaven. I want to be saved and know it. Therefore, here and now I confess my sinfulness to God. With all my heart I trust Jesus Christ to forgive me and save me and prepare me for Heaven. I give Him my heart. This moment I depend upon Him as my own personal Saviour and write this as a confession of my faith. By His help I will claim Him before men and set out to live for Him the rest of my life.

Signed _____

Address _____



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